

More specifically, claims 5 and 9 have been amended to remove multiple claim dependencies in a manner consistent with U.S. prosecution. Claims 10 and 11 have been amended to convert the Swiss-type use claims to the U.S. method of treatment format. Applicants submit that such amendments do not change the scope of the subject matter claimed in claims 5 and 9-11, but merely puts it in an alternative format. All claim amendments made merely address formalities in the claim format and do not change the scope of the claims. Such claim amendments are therefore not related to the patentability of the subject matter claimed.


Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims, as amended, are in condition for allowance. Please charge any fees due with this amendment to deposit account number 13-3372. If the Examiner believes that a conversation with Applicants' attorney would be helpful in expediting prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (203) 812-3964.

Respectfully submitted,

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Amended Claims for Attorney Docket No. Le A 34 813

5. (Amended) Compounds according to Claim 1

where

R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 and A have the meaning stated in Claim 1. and

A is in position c of the benzene radical.

8. canceled

9. (Amended) Medicaments containing at least one of the compounds according to Claim 1 mixed with at least one pharmaceutically suitable essentially nontoxic carrier or excipient.

10. (Amended) A method of treating or preventing states of pain and/or neurodegenerative disorders, comprising administering to a mammal an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.

11. (Amended) A method of treating or preventing Parkinson's disease, comprising administering to a mammal an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.

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Version with Markings to Show Changes Made

5. (Amended) Compounds according to [any of] Claim[s] 1 [to 3]

where

R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 and A have the meaning stated in [any of] Claim[s] 1 [to 4], and

A is in position c of the benzene radical.

8. canceled

9. (Amended) Medicaments containing at least one of the compounds according to [any of] Claim[s] 1 [to 5] mixed with at least one pharmaceutically suitable essentially nontoxic carrier or excipient.

10. (Amended) A method of treating or preventing [Use of compounds according to any of Claims 1 to 5 for producing a medicament for the treatment and/or prophylaxis of] states of pain and/or neurodegenerative disorders, comprising administering to a mammal an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.

11. (Amended) A method of treating or preventing [Use of compounds according to any of Claims 1 to 5 for producing a medicament for the treatment and/or prophylaxis of] Parkinson's disease, comprising administering to a mammal an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.